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PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 350292001100

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Masanori Ayabe et al.

Appl. No.: 10/018,293

Filing Date: December 18, 2001

Title: METHOD OF GENERATING VIRUS-FREE PLANTS

Group Art Unit: 1661

Examiner: Wendy C. Haas

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**PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME AND
RESPONSE TO COMMUNICATION FROM EXAMINER**

Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Sir:

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REQUEST FOR ONE MONTH EXTENSION

Applicant respectfully requests a one-month extension of time to respond to the Office Communication, mail dated March 11, 2002 (Paper No. 5), to extend the period for filing a response to this Communication up to and including May 11, 2003. Please charge the requisite one-month extension fee of \$55 to Deposit Account No. 03-1952.

va-32203

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a.) Introductory Comments

RESPONSE TO COMMUNICATION FROM EXAMINER

In response to the Office Communication, mail dated March 11, 2003 (Paper No. 5), applicant respectfully requests entry of the following amendment to the specification and provides the following remarks and information. No new matter is added or new issues raised with this amendment, and claims 1-5 are now pending.